

REMARKS

Claim 20 has been amended. Claims 1 and 4-16 have been canceled. Thus, claims 17-22 are now pending. The amendment to claim 20 adds a closing parenthesis after the term "B2". Thus, no new matter has been added. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the present rejections in view of the amendments and comments presented herein are respectfully requested.

Allowable subject matter

The Examiner stated that claims 17-22 were allowable.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph

Claims 9-16 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph, as allegedly failing to comply with the written description requirement. Although Applicant does not agree with the rejection, claims 9-16 have been canceled, thus rendering the rejection moot. Thus, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §112, first paragraph.

Rejection under 35 U.S.C. §103(a)

Claims 1 and 4-16 were rejected as being unpatentable over Fujimori et al. (JP 2001-142214 and its machine-assisted translation of the Japanese document as provided by the JPO). Although Applicant does not agree with the rejection, claims 1 and 4-16 have been canceled, thus rendering the rejection moot. Thus, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the rejection under 35 U.S.C. §103(a).

CONCLUSION

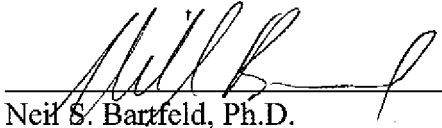
Because all of the rejected claims have been canceled, the only remaining claims are those that have been allowed (17-22). Thus, the present application is now in condition for allowance. If minor matters remain that could be resolved by teleconference, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the number provided below.

No fees are believed due in connection with this Amendment. However, please charge any fees to Deposit Account No. 11-1410.

Respectfully submitted,

KNOBBE, MARTENS, OLSON & BEAR, LLP

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